

A Caution to the PUBLIC.

SINCE the Printers of some of the News Papers have refused to insert in them, a Detection of certain gross Impositions that are practised upon the Ignorant and Unwary, I think myself obliged to take this Method of circulating Hand-Bills, to undeceive the Public: And I think it more immediately incumbent on me to do it, because I think I have unfortunately, though innocently been the Cause of the Mischief, I am in this manner endeavouring to prevent the Public from falling a Prey to. I shall leave it to the Printers themselves to reconcile their Conduct, in refusing to publish Intelligence of such great Concern to the Lives and Health of our Fellow-Citizens, with the Regard they profess for the Welfare of the Community, and the Duty they owe the Public; though when it is considered the Printers of News-Papers and the Booksellers concerned with them, are the principal Venders of Quack Medicines, and that they get great Profit by them, it will not be difficult, I presume, to account for their Motives in endeavouring to prevent a Detection of some of the most dangerous and barefaced Impositions of that Nature, from being made universally known.

When I laid before the Public, on my Arrival from *America*, an Account (*) of the Discoveries I had made in that my Native Country, towards curing the Gout and some Kinds of Rheumatism, I did it with the utmost Plainness and Candor. I related by what Means I happened to make my Discoveries: I trusted to the Merit alone of those Discoveries for the Public Favour: I endeavoured to convince not to impose: I published therefore several Instances of very extraordinary Cures: I mentioned the Names and Places of Abode of the Patients, that Enquiry might be made into the Facts: I referred moreover to Persons of Note and Reputation: I invited the Gentlemen of the Faculty to examine my Patients before I began with them, and to visit them while they were under Cure. I aimed in short in all Things to give the fullest Satisfaction. Enquiries were accordingly made. Patients applied to me, and many were surprisingly cured: Some of which Cases I afterwards published, and had the singular Happiness to see my Relation of them confirmed in an honourable manner, by Letters in the Public-Paper from the Parties themselves, viz. from the Reverend *Moses Brown*, Vicar of *Oldney, Bucks*, and Chaplain to *Morden College, Blackheath*, Mr. *George Honnor*, in *Southwark, &c.* By this plain and honest Method I succeeded, and soon established the Merit and Utility of my Discoveries beyond all Contradiction. But as the best of Things may give rise to the greatest Evils, these Discoveries of mine, and the Encouragement I meet with in consequence of the Cures I performed, have stirred up certain Persons to impose on the Public various Quack-Medicines for the Gout and Rheumatism, who endeavour to avail themselves of the established Credit of my Discoveries, to cover and facilitate their wicked and dangerous Impositions. For as I had in my Pamphlet candidly related how I accidentally made those Discoveries in *America*, that the Medicines used were the Produce of that Country, and that I had communicated them to a Physician of Character and Eminence now in *London*, who could therefore give a satisfactory Account of them, those very worthy Persons (the Authors of the Imposition in question) very ingeniously took a Hint from thence, to advertise their precious never failing Remedies for the Gout, and Rheumatism, under the specious Names of AMERICAN MEDICINES, INDIAN SECRETS, AMERICAN SPECIFICS, &c. &c. said to be used by the Indians with great Success in those Diseases, and to be disclosed to some nameless Person of Authority, and to be published by some nameless Physician, with such like Artifices and Pretences to take in the Ignorant and Unwary, and to make the Public believe they are the same Medicines with which I performed the extraordinary Cures before-mentioned, and that they are published under the Direction of the Physician to whom I communicated my Discoveries. To mention these pitiful and base Contrivances is sufficient to expose them: But it is particularly unfortunate for some of these MODEST ADVERTISING GENTRY who so kindly offer the Public their AMERICAN SECIFICS and INDIAN SECRETS for the GOUT, that the *Indians* are utter Strangers to that Disorder, it being never heard of that an Indian was troubled with the Gout, as is well known by every Person who is acquainted with *America*. The Insinuation that those Medicines are published by the Physician to whom I communicated my Discoveries, is too base to need to be contradicted: And with regard to myself I declare, that although I wish to make my Discoveries as generally useful as possible, and although I can make a Preparation of my Medicines that would be of great and almost general Utility in the Gout and Rheumatism, the Aversion I have to do any thing that borders in the least on Quackery, would never permit me to advertise any Medicine whatever. To relieve however the Afflicted to the utmost of my Power, the Poor are always welcome to my Assistance gratis, while from other People I expect to be rewarded according to their Circumstances, and in Proportion to the Benefit they receive from me.

Henry Flower,

London, Throgmorton-street, No. 35.

* Observations on the GOUT and RHEUMATISM, exhibiting Instances of Persons who were greatly relieved in the Fit of the Gout; and of others who were cured of the Gout in the Head, Stomach and Bowels; of obstinate Rheumatisms; and of Swellings, Stiffness, and Contractions of the Limbs, after irregular or long continued Fits of the Gout: By Medicines discovered in *America*. Humbly inscribed to the College of Physicians, by Henry Flower, an American.

New Things do I declare; before they spring forth I tell you of them. *Isaiah*,
Printed for E. COOKE, at the Royal-Exchange. Price 1s.

N. B. Mr. Flower attends at Home every Day, Sundays and Wednesdays excepted, from Twelve to Two o'Clock, to receive Patients.

